

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claim 6 contains allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 10 and 12 are amended, and claims 17-20 are added, to recite additional features disclosed in the specification, as discussed during the August 8, 2006 personal interview with Examiner Stevenson.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank Examiner Stevenson for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Luo, during the August 8, 2006 personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 7-9, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,836,361 to Takeo; and rejects claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Takeo in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,761,925 to Banno et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 10 and 12 are amended to recite "the base member being elevated from the substrate," as outlined above. As discussed during the personal interview, Takeo and Banno do not disclose or suggest this feature. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 10 and 12, and claims 2-5, 7-9, 11 and 13-16 depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 17-20 are patentable at least in view of the patentability of claims 1 and 12, from which they respectfully depend, as well as for additional features they recite. For example, as discussed during the personal interview, Takeo and Banno do not disclose or suggest "the droplets being made of a material that is different from a material of the base member," as recited in claims 18 and 20.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Request for Continued Examination

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